19th March 1955]

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" An early decision will be taken, Sir, before the expiry of the life of the present district boards."

Government Hospital, Rajapalayam

* 1485 Q.—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) the present bed strength of the Government Hospital, Rajapalayam in Ramanathapuram district; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the bed strength and staff in that hospital?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) 16, Sir.

" (b) There is a proposal to construct a ward of 20 beds in the hospital."

Suicides in Malabar.

* 1486 Q.—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the number of suicides in Malabar in 1954 and January 1955;

(b) how many were due to the eating of the poisonous fruit called 'Kolambikaya' or 'Manja Arali Kaya'; and

(c) how many due to other causes?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—

	1954.	January 1955.
" (a)	498	54
" (b)	81	19
" (c)	417	35 "

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" May I know whether there was any case of attempt to commit suicide in the district of Malabar and if so, whether those concerned have been prosecuted? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I would like to have notice."

Causeway across Thambaraparani river at Karuppanthurai.

* 1487 Q.—SRI R. S. ARUMUGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a causeway in the Thambaraparani river near Karuppanthurai to connect Tirunelveli town and Melapalayam in Tirunelveli district;

(b) if so, the stage at which the matter stands; and

(c) when it is likely to be commenced?

[19th March 1955

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" (*a*) The Tirunelveli District Board has recently proposed that the work of constructing the causeway referred to may be recommended to the Government of India for inclusion in the Central Road Fund Programme.

" (*b*) The District Board's proposal is now with the Chief Engineer (Highways).

" (*c*) On receipt of the remarks of the Chief Engineer (Highways) in the matter, Government will consider the proposal of the District Board. It cannot now be said when the work will be commenced."

SRI R. S. ARUMUGAM :—" எவ்வளவு நாட்களாக இந்த ப்ரபோசல் பெண்டிங்காக இருந்து வருகிறது ? திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லா மேலப்பாளையம் நகர சபைகளும், திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லா போர்டும் தாம்போதியின் அவசர அவசியத்தைத் தெரிந்து செலவாகும் தொகையில் ஒரு பகுதி கொடுப்பதாகச் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள், ஆகவே மத்திய சர்க்காரிடமிருந்து வரும் பணத்தை எதிர்பார்க்காமலேயே ஏன் நம்முடைய ராஜ்ய சர்க்காருடைய பணத்தை இதில் செலவு செய்து உடனடியாகச் செய்யக்கூடாது ? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" இதற்கு அதிகப் பணம் தேவையாக இருப்பதினால்தான் மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தின் உதவி கோரப்பட்டது. அது இப்பொழுது வருவதற்குப் போதுமான வாய்ப்பும் இருப்பதினால், அதற்காக கொஞ்ச நாள் பொறுத்திருப்பதில் தவறு ஒன்றும் இல்லை."

Motor Vehicles Inspectors.

* 1488 *Q.*—SRI M. DHARMALINGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state the number of Brake Inspectors working in this State and their main functions?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" There are 26 Motor Vehicles Inspectors and 13 Assistant Motor Vehicles Inspectors in this State.

Their main duty is to inspect periodically the motor vehicles plying within their jurisdiction and to issue certificates of fitness to transport vehicles."

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that in rural parts, buffaloes going across the streets are also acting as ' Brake Inspectors '? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Yes, Sir."

Free medical treatment for medical students.

* 1489 *Q.*—SRI B. K. NALLASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether medical students are admitted free of charges for treatment in Government Hospitals?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir."